Manga Mukojima Kamome

Original Work Saitosa

Character Design Tsugutoku

5

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT.

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CLANG

Chapter 17

I WOULDN'T BOTHER ATTEMPTING ANY MORE HEROICS.

VOOM ブーン

THIS CELL IS IMPERVIOUS TO BOTH PHYSICAL *AND* MAGICAL FORCE.

CLACK ガシャ

THIS...

...IS WHERE OUR MOST HIGH-PROFILE CRIMINALS ARE TYPICALLY CONFINED.

OR PER-HAPS...

DOK

...DISCARDED WOULD BE MORE APT.

IN ANY CASE, THERE IS *NO STRONGER PRISON IN THE KINGDOM.*

M

KRAKL

IF WE'RE SO WELL CONTAINED...

...MAYBE WE COULD DO WITHOUT THE SHACKLES?

RATTLE

THEY WILL BE REMOVED IN TIME.

IT'S A PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE IN CASE ANY OF YOU LOSE YOUR NERVE AND BECOME VIOLENT.

I'M CONFUSED. YOU COULD HAVE KILLED US AT THE PARTY, AND YOU COULD DO SO NOW.

IT'S ALMOST LIKE YOU ***WANT*** US ALIVE FOR SOME REASON.

WHY IS THAT?

I'M RIGHT, AREN'T I?

IT'S BECAUSE WE'RE ***HOSTAGES.***

FOR THE MACCAD EMPIRE.

THEY HAVE A VESTED INTEREST IN KEEPING US ALIVE.

THE MACCADS ARE THE ONES WHO SET UP THE WHOLE HERO SYSTEM IN THE FIRST PLACE.

WE'LL BUY TIME FOR THE KINGDOM'S NEW LEADERS TO COME INTO POWER.

WE'RE THE LEVERAGE IN CASE ANY FOREIGN POWERS TRY TO INTERFERE.

WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, RYUTO?

SPOT ON.

DID THAT BEATING KNOCK SOME SENSE INTO YOU?

...

YEAH. YOU COULD SAY I'VE LEARNED A FEW THINGS.

ABOUT ***BLOOD.***

AND HOW ***COLD*** IT RUNS IN OUR VEINS.

SHUDDER

...

WISH NOT FOR ME TO BE BROUGHT TO JUSTICE...

...BUT FOR MY *DEATH.*

YOUR LACK OF WILL MAKES YOU WEAK.

FLINCH

IRONIC, CONSIDERING HOW MUCH THE THOUGHT OF YOU GETTING AWAY WITH THIS MAKES MINE BOIL.

GLARE

HIS EYES WERE LIFELESS.

TREMBLE

JOLT

THEY DREDGED UP OLD MEMORIES IN AEGIANA.

MEMO-RIES OF HERSELF.

TWENTY-TWO YEARS AGO...

THE ELF INVASION CAMPAIGN.

MANY HARBORED DOUBTS ABOUT THE MORAL GROUNDS OF THEIR MISSION.

CLAP CLAP

BUT PATRIOTISM WON OUT IN MANY A SOLDIER'S HEART.

AND SO THEY MARCHED.

AEGIANA WAS BUT FIFTEEN.

A COMMANDER IN THE VERY FIRST SKIRMISHES.

HER PLATOON CONSISTED OF HER PEERS. COMRADES WHOM SHE HAD TRAINED WITH HER WHOLE CAREER.

...THE RISING SUN BROUGHT TO BEAR A BATTALION OF ONE THOUSAND.

AGAINST THREE HUNDRED ELVES...

AGAINST SUCH OVERWHELMING ODDS, IT WAS THOUGHT THE OFFENSIVE WOULD MEET LITTLE RESISTANCE.

ROOOAAAR

AND SO THEY MARCHED.

...WEAK-
NESS WAS
BORN.

FROM
THAT
SELF-
ASSUR-
ANCE...

CLANG

AND
IN THE
MIDST OF
BATTLE...

...AEGIANA
HESITATED.

HUFF

HUFF

ALL IT TOOK WAS ONE MISTAKE.

HER HELMET KNOCKED CLEAN, A YOUNG ELF'S INNOCENT FEATURES WERE LAID BARE.

SHE HESITATED ONLY A MOMENT— BUT A MOMENT TOO LONG.

STILL...

THAT INSTANT COST HER THE LIVES OF EVERY SOUL IN HER PLATOON.

...AND THE CASUALTIES ONLY GREW FROM THERE.

THE ELVES FOUGHT WITH MUCH MORE FEROCITY THAN ANTIC-IPATED...

THE HUMANS' LEADERS HAD BEEN WRONG.

HUFF

HUFF

IT WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN A SWIFT VICTORY.

OUT OF FIVE COMPANIES, TWO HAD BEEN DECIMATED. ONE WAS ON ITS LAST LEGS.

FIVE HUNDRED SOLDIERS WERE EITHER DEAD OR GRAVELY WOUNDED.

HAAH

HAAH

AEGIANA LOST ALL FAITH IN HER COUNTRY.

YET SHE CONTINUED TO FIGHT, EVEN AS HER FURY AT THE NOBLES WHO HAD SENT THEM TO THEIR DEATHS GREW.

HAAH

HAAH

HER ENTIRE PLATOON, HER BROTHERS-AND SISTERS-IN-ARMS, LAY DEAD AT HER FEET.

SUDDENLY, SHE WAS ALONE.

AND ALONE SHE STOOD.

WITHOUT HESITATION.

WITHOUT WEAKNESS.

AAAARGH!!!

ALONE, SHE BUTCHERED THREE ENEMY PLATOONS.

SHE SLEW THEM.

ALONE, SHE SURVIVED.

SHE SLAUGHTERED THEM.

MAIMED AND GORED THEM.

AND HOW CRUEL A FATE IT WAS...

...THAT AT THE END OF HER PAIN AND SUFFERING...

...A LEGEND WAS BORN.

ELSE-
WHERE
ON THE
BATTLE-
FIELD...

SHUFFLE

...THERE WAS
ONE WHO HAD
QUESTIONED
THE CAMPAIGN
FROM
THE VERY
BEGINNING.

A MAN
WHOSE
PLEAS TO
RECONSIDER
HAD GONE
UNHEEDED
BY HIS
SUPERIOR
OFFICERS.

NO
ONE WOULD
SEE OR HEAR
OF HER FOR
SOME TIME
AFTER THAT.

JUST FOUR
YEARS LATER,
SHE WOULD
BECOME
**HUMANITY'S
MIGHTIEST.**

HAAH

HAAH

THAT MAN WAS BITREI.

HAAH

HUFF

DESPITE BEING REBUFFED, THIS COMMANDER HAD VALIANTLY TAKEN THE FRONT LINE. THE WOUNDS HE SUFFERED DEFENDING HIS COMRADES WOULD ULTIMATELY END HIS CAREER.

HUFF

HE WOULD LATER BE APPOINTED CHANCEL-LOR...

...AND ULTIMATELY BRING A BLOODY END TO HIS LIEGE'S REIGN.

...BUT REVOLUTION WILL SOON BE UPON US.

IT'S BEEN A LONG ROAD...

MURMUR

...

YOUR MAJESTY.

REST NOT ON YOUR LAURELS, SIR BITREI.

AT LAST, IT IS DONE.

POWERLESS TO PROTECT EVEN MY OWN COMRADES.

NO LONGER AM I THE MAN I WAS. POWERLESS TO AVERT SENSELESS WAR.

WE WILL REBUILD EVERYTHING. THE INSTITUTIONS, THE VERY SYSTEM ITSELF, FROM THE GROUND UP.

BUT NOW IS NOT THE TIME FOR COMPLACENCY. THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

I *WILL* SEE THIS NATION TO GLORY.

YOU'VE SURE COME A LONG WAY, BITREI.

MY MEN SHOULD BE STATIONED BEFORE ME.

AND NONE OF THEM WOULD REFER TO ME WITHOUT MY TITLE.

SO THEN...

...?

INDEED. BUT I SHAN'T REST YET. THE TRUE TEST IS YET TO...

WHIP

WHO GOES THERE?

IDENTIFY YOUR—

BEFORE I COULD SO MUCH AS TURN AROUND...

SPLAT

...IT WAS ALREADY TOO LATE.

FOR ALL I SPIED...

...WAS MY OWN HEADLESS BODY.

SIR...

FWMP

ROLL ゴロン

ROLL ゴロン

ゴ THMP トン

SIR BITREI!

THUNK

WELL...

SO MUCH FOR YOUR LITTLE COUP.

OH!

OH!

OH!

FLINCH

IT'S *IMPOSSIBLE!*

NO... NO, IT *CAN'T* BE!

YOUR THRONE LIES EMPTY.

YOUR HEAD HONCHO'S SANS A HEAD.

AND THE ROYAL LINE IS EFFECTIVELY ENDED.

NO MORE PLAN, NO MORE REASON TO FIGHT.

YOU'RE UP SHIT'S CREEK, FRANKLY.

BUT DON'T GET TOO EXCITED.
BECAUSE THIS PARTY'S FAR FROM OVER!

YOU SON OF A WHORE!

FOOM

CLENCH

FWIP

YOU TOOK A LOT OF LIVES HERE.

SHOOM

SHOOM

GRAH!

ANYONE CAPABLE OF THAT...

HURGH!

CLACK

...BETTER BE READY TO GIVE UP *THEIR OWN.*

WINCE

TREMBLE

BWOOM

ARTIFACT, *ACTIVATE!*

FORMA-TIONS!

!

TWING

AEGIS OF THE GUARDIAN DEITY

QUALITY: SS

VALUE: 6 MIL DELLS

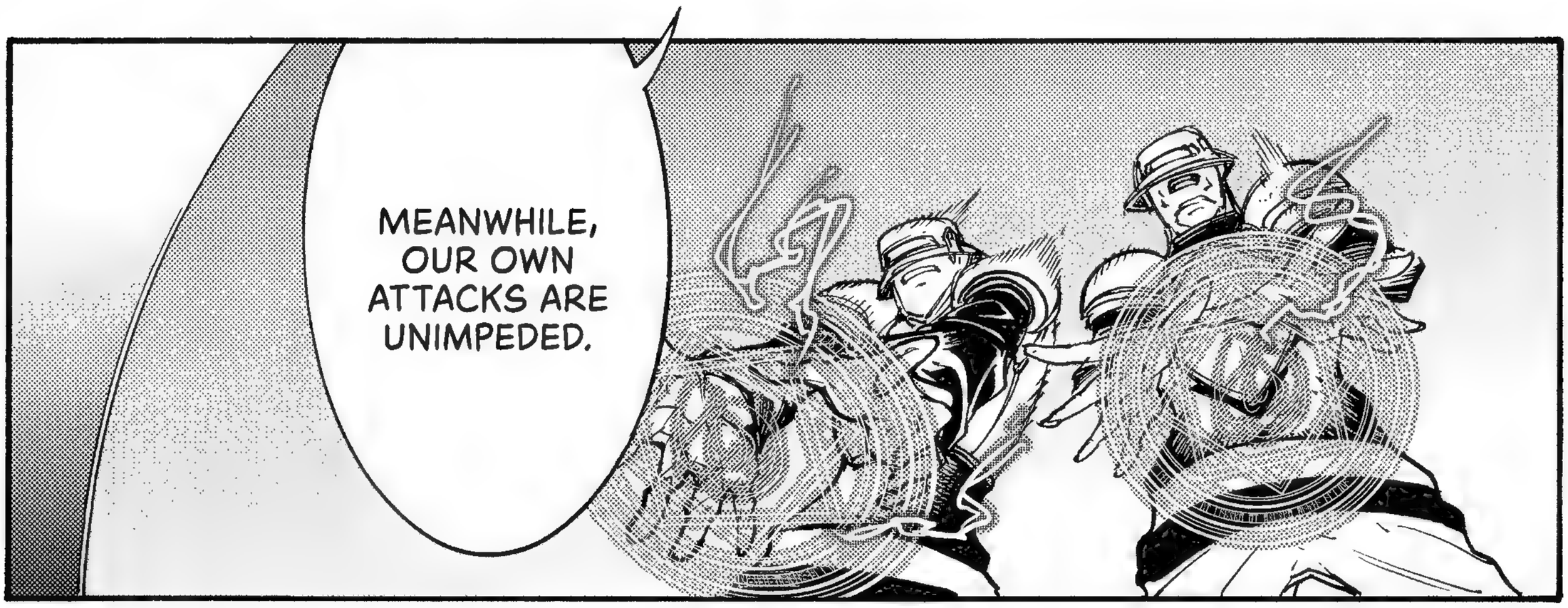
ARTIFACT

GENERATES A HEMISPHERICAL TACTICAL BARRIER OF VARIABLE SIZE.

TWING

"ARTIFACT"?

NOTHING CAN BREACH THIS BARRIER, WHETHER IT BE PHYSICAL OR ARCANE!


MEANWHILE, OUR OWN ATTACKS ARE UNIMPEDED.

REGROUP WHILE WE CAN!
AND DO NOT STOP FIRING SPELLS! TAKE HIM DOWN!

AH, SO THAT'S WHY IT'S "TACTICAL."

TUP...

TUP...

"AEGIS OF THE GUARDIAN DEITY," EH?

BET IT EVEN WORKS AS ADVERTISED. KEEPS YOU SAFE AGAINST *ALL* THE ICKY SPELLS OF THIS WORLD.

TUP

TUP

NICE. I LIKE THE CONCEPT.

SHAME.

CRASH

?!

...RELEASE.

MUTTER

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

C-CAP-TAIN!

GOO

DAZE...

...

CAP—!

SUBJU-GATION MAGIC

UNFOR-TUNATELY FOR YOU...

...*I'M* NOT OF THIS WORLD!

AS SUCH...

LURCH

THUNK

...TRADITIONAL METHODS OF DEFENSE ARE ENTIRELY INEFFECTIVE AGAINST IT.

INDEED, INORI'S ABILITIES DO NOT ORIGINATE FROM THIS REALITY.

*THE VERY **BASIS** OF HIS MAGIC DEFIES ALL OF THIS WORLD'S NATURAL LAWS.*

OOH!!

UNHINGED, AND UNBOUND BY THE WAYS OF THE WORLD...

WHO?!

...INORI TAKAFUJI IS CHAOS GIVEN FORM.

DOOOOOOM

SHF

SWSH
FOOM
WHOOSH

I THINK I'M GONNA *SLAUGHTER* YOU ALL NOW.

AH...

TREMBLE

AAAAA-AHHH!!!

DON'T WORRY, THOUGH. IT'S JUST PERSONAL.

SHOOM

SHOOO

FEEL FREE TO STRUGGLE.

I'D WELCOME THE ENTER-TAINMENT.

ZIOOOM

SHOOM

SHOOM

MY KNIVES FLY FREE AND UNBOUND.

INDIFFERENT TO THE LAWS OF PHYSICS.

Chapter 18

AND ONE BY ONE...

...THEY REAP THESE PITIFUL SOULS.

THERE'S NOWHERE THEY CAN HIDE, NO FORMATION THEY CAN TAKE TO ESCAPE...

...MY **EYE OF TRUE SIGHT.**

EVEN IF THEY COULD...

SHUNK

...THEY'LL NEVER OUTRUN MY **TRUE DARK MAGIC.**

EVERY BLADE MOVES EXACTLY AS I WILL IT.

IN CASE IT WASN'T OBVIOUS...

...YOU'RE *ALL* LAMBS FOR THE SLAUGHTER.

HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
HUFF!
EEK!
SPLURCH
GYAAAAAAGH!
SPLACH
HUFF!
AAARGH!
HUFF!
WHAT THE HELL? WHAT THE ***HELL*** IS THIS? HE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE ONE OF THE HEROES' FLUNKIES! A ***STRAGGLER!***
BUT THIS...
THAT'S WHY CAPTAIN AEGIANA HAD HER EYE ON HIM.
PEEK
HIS BLESSING WAS SUPPOSED TO BE DETECT.

THIS ISN'T NORMAL! NONE OF THIS MAKES *ANY* SE—

ERGH!

SHING

TUD

TUP

VUM

STATUS.

ALL RIGHT...

INORI TAKAFUJI DEMON (VAMPIRE - BARON-CLASS) LV 13

HP: 2350/2817
MP: 20108/20110
STR: 3280
VIT: 2922
DEX: 2561
AGI: 3412
INT: 5084

UNIQUE SKILLS

GROWTH BOOST
5X EXP MULTIPLIER
1/2 REQUIRED EXP
EYE OF TRUE SIGHT
EYE OF SIGILS
CONTEMPT FOR THE SUN GOD
VAMPIRISM
BARON-CLASS AUTHORITY
SKILL PILFER TRUE DARK MAGIC
ARMAMENT CRAFT
DETECT
LEVEL UP
SKILL ACQUISITION
MONARCH CALIBER

GENERAL SKILLS

SWORDSMANSHIP LV 6
THROWING ARTS LV 8
SWINDLER LV 3
FLIGHT LV 4
LEAP LV 10
EVASION LV 2
STRING ARTS LV 6
STEALTH LV 6
DROPKICK LV 10
TRAP REMOVAL LV 3
TRAPPER LV 4
BITE LV 10
POISE LV 6

TITLES

INDOMITABLE SOUL
INVOLVED AGAINST WILL
HAM ACTOR
GIANT KILLER
SCUM OF THE EARTH

NEW

SCUM OF THE EARTH

"SCUM OF THE EARTH"? I'M OFFENDED.

OUCH!

BLAM!!

LOOKS LIKE... HM. RECOVERING FROM THE DAMAGE I TOOK EARLIER IN THE DAY IS GONNA TAKE MORE HP THAN I'VE GOT.

THAT THEY WOULD CALL THEMSELVES "PROTECTORS" OF THE WITCH'S LAND...

!

HOW LOATH-SOME, THIS INEPTI-TUDE.

LOOM

NOT IDEAL...

I DON'T RECALL YOU DODGING A SINGLE ONE OF MY DAGGERS YOURSELF...

YOU'RE ONE TO TALK.

AH!

DUN!

...FENRIR.

*YEAH, YEAH, YOU WON THE **FIRST** ROUND. DON'T GET HUFFY WITH ME.*

PUFF

NAY, THOUGH THEY DREW NO BLOOD.

ANYWAY, MOVING ON.

IT'S TIME TO EARN YOUR KEEP.

VRM

ZUM

GO ON AND JOIN THEM.

I'VE ALREADY GOT A FEW OF YOUR PACK ROAMING THE CASTLE.

FROM WHAT I CAN TELL, SEEMS LIKE ANY BLOOD YOU GUYS CONSUME COUNTS AS BLOOD *I'VE* CONSUMED.

I WANT YOU TO KILL ANYTHING THAT MOVES.

?

WHAT IN THE WORLD...?

DRAIN THE CORPSES...

...THEN MAKE THEM MY *GHOULS.*

IT'S... IT'S AN ANIMAL. NO...

H-HELL, IT'S A *MONSTER!*

FOOM

OH... OH HELL...

CRACK

CRUNCH

FLAIL

FLAIL

AAAAAHHH!

HOW DID THIS BEAST GET INSIDE THE CASTLE?!

BUT I HAVE A FEW GOOD REASONS FOR IT.

NOW, WHAT I'M DOING IS A MASSACRE, MAKE NO MISTAKE.

WE HAVE TO MAKE HER DISAPPEAR, AND WE CAN'T LET ANYONE WHO KNOWS SHE GOT AWAY LIVE.

FOR STARTERS, WE'LL BE RID OF ARIYA'S ENEMIES AND PURSUERS.

BEST-CASE SCENARIO, EVERYONE DIES HERE, AND, AS FAR AS THE PUBLIC IS CONCERNED, NOT A SOUL MADE IT OUT.

NO SURVIVORS

MY SECOND MOTIVE, THOUGH...

...IS THEIR BLOOD.

QUAKE

AND I GET NEW SKILLS OUT OF IT.

WHAT CAN I SAY? GENOCIDE'S A GOOD SOURCE OF XP.

RUMBLE

TWIRL

TWIRL

NEW

BLUDGEONING ARTS LV 1
MENTAL MATH LV 2

NICE.

GOOD FINDS.

SHOO

ARGH!

SPLURCH

THUNK

ZOOM

TUMP

TUMP

THMP

!!

!

TUP

TUP

...LET'S JUST SAY, THEY'RE APT TO LOSE THEIR HEADS.

ANY-ONE WHO HAPPENS TO COME INTO DETECT'S RANGE WHILE I'M ON MY LITTLE STROLL, WELL...

TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP...
TUP
TUP

YO
PAUSE
NOW'S AS GOOD A TIME AS ANY.
THERE'S SOMETHING I'VE LEFT.

KREEE

RATHER, SOMETHING I NEVER FINISHED.

I STILL HAVEN'T READ THROUGH THE PALACE'S WHOLE LIBRARY YET.

WHATEVER THERE IS TO KNOW ABOUT THIS WORLD, I WANNA KNOW IT.

...ALL I NEED TO DO IS GET A GOOD LOOK AT THE COVER TO ABSORB EVERYTHING.

WITH MY EYE'S OMNISCIENCE, CLAIRVOYANCE, AND PHOTOGRAPHIC MEMORY ABILITIES COMBINED...

YMMMM

I'LL STASH HALF IN MY SHADOW FOR NOW.

TOSS

STILL, IT'D TAKE ME ALL NIGHT TO GET THROUGH EVERY LAST VOLUME HERE.

NEXT ON THE LIST...

KREEE

EEP!

WH-WHO'S THERE?!

YOU'RE ...

YOU'RE NOT A KNIGHT, ARE YOU?

SAME, LADY. WHO EVEN ARE THESE TWO?

!

FATHER! I THINK HE'S HERE TO HELP!

YOU SERVE THE HEROES!

Y-YOU... I KNOW YOU!

GRAB

PLEASE! PLEASE, GOOD SIR! I BEG YOU TO RESCUE US!

I'M INNOCENT, GOOD SIR, I SWEAR TO YOU! I'VE TAKEN NO BRIBES AND EARNED MY STATION RIGHTLY!

IT'S THAT ***DASTARDLY*** CHANCELLOR! HE SUDDENLY SET HIS DOGS ON US, AND WE...! WE...!

SO I GUESS THESE GUYS SOMEHOW MANAGED TO GIVE THE GUARDS THE SLIP, AND THIS IS WHERE THEY'VE BEEN HIDING OUT.

YOU MUST SAVE US FROM THIS VILLAIN'S SCHEMES!

PLEASE HAVE MERCY!

LITERALLY WHY?

WHAT'S IN IT FOR ME?

A-ANYTHING YOUR HEART DESIRES! MONEY, WOMEN, DRINK!

PAR-DON?

SMACK

UH. RIGHT.

NO THANKS.

I'VE GOT SLAUGHTERING TO DO.

THE MAN IS PETRIFIED, LIKE A STATUE.

AND THE GIRL... WAIT, WHAT'S THAT SMELL?

WANNA LOSE AS MUCH WEIGHT AS POSSIBLE TO GIVE YOU AN EDGE. IT'S ONLY LOGICAL.

TRICKLE

AH, I SEE. HEY, NO JUDGMENT HERE. YOU'RE IN FIGHT-OR-FLIGHT MODE.

CLENCH

WHY...?

IS THIS A *JOKE* TO YOU?!

WHY WOULD SHE ASK ME... OH. I GET IT.

A JOKE?

LIAR

IT'S BECAUSE I'M SMILING.

MIO

SHF

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I'M SOME SADIST WHO GETS OFF ON VIOLENCE OR ANYTHING, SO...

I GUESS I AM ENJOYING MYSELF.

BUT "WHY"?

"WHY"?

WHY NOT?

YOU'RE A COUPLE OF HIGH-CLASS ELITES, AREN'T YOU?

SURELY YOU KNOW A THING OR TWO ABOUT ***PLEASURE*** FOR ***PLEASURE'S*** SAKE.

JUMP

AND WHAT'S THE POINT OF LIVING IF YOU CAN'T HAVE A GOOD TIME ALONG THE WAY, RIGHT?

EEP!

STEP

SO, LIKE...

...WHY TREAT IT AS AN OBLIGATION?

IF I'M GONNA *SLAUGHTER* ANYWAY...

KREEE...

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

E

WHEN I COULD *REVEL IN IT* INSTEAD.

CLACK
GO AHEAD AND HATE ME.

I WOULD TOO.
No! Sto—
AiiE-EE!
Argh!
Hragh!

LOWER STILL DOES THE CURTAIN OF NIGHT FALL...

Chapter 19

THE WAR MAIDEN BATTALION...!!!

AEGIANA'S OWN REGIMENT OF THE FINEST WOMEN IN THE KNIGHTS...

UNDER HER LEADERSHIP, THEY BECAME KNOWN AS ONE OF THE RISING SUN'S MOST ELITE FIGHTING FORCES.

EVERY INDIVIDUAL AMONG THEIR RANKS IS PEERLESS IN HER OWN RIGHT. EACH IS UNMATCHED...

...SAVE BY THE CAPTAIN HERSELF, PERHAPS.

Chapter 19

TUP
TUP
TUP
TUP
NOT HERE EITHER, HUH?
NO SIGN OF HIM.
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, BUT PERSONALLY, THIS IS GETTING KINDA OLD.
NOT SINCE LEARNING HE AND THE PRINCESS ESCAPED.
IT'S STRANGE THAT WE'VE RECEIVED NO UPDATES FROM THE OTHERS.

WHAT'S THE CAPTAIN SEE IN HIM ANYWAY?

NOW, ALICE, YOU HAVE TO ADMIT HE'S CUTE.

YOU NEED AT ***LEAST*** SIX ABS TO RIDE THIS RIDE.

YOU CAN KEEP THE TWIG TO YOURSELF.

!

WHAT DO YOU THINK, ELFAYE?

AT LEAST YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT. I'LL GRANT YOU THAT.

M-MIRANDA!

OH, BUT PARDON ME. WOULDN'T WANT TO MAKE ALEC JEALOUS, WOULD WE?

THAT'S ENOUGH CHATTER.

BLUSH

TEE HEE

WE CAN'T AFFORD ANY SCREWUPS AT THIS STAGE.

THE OPERATION IS ALMOST COMPLETE.

HM?

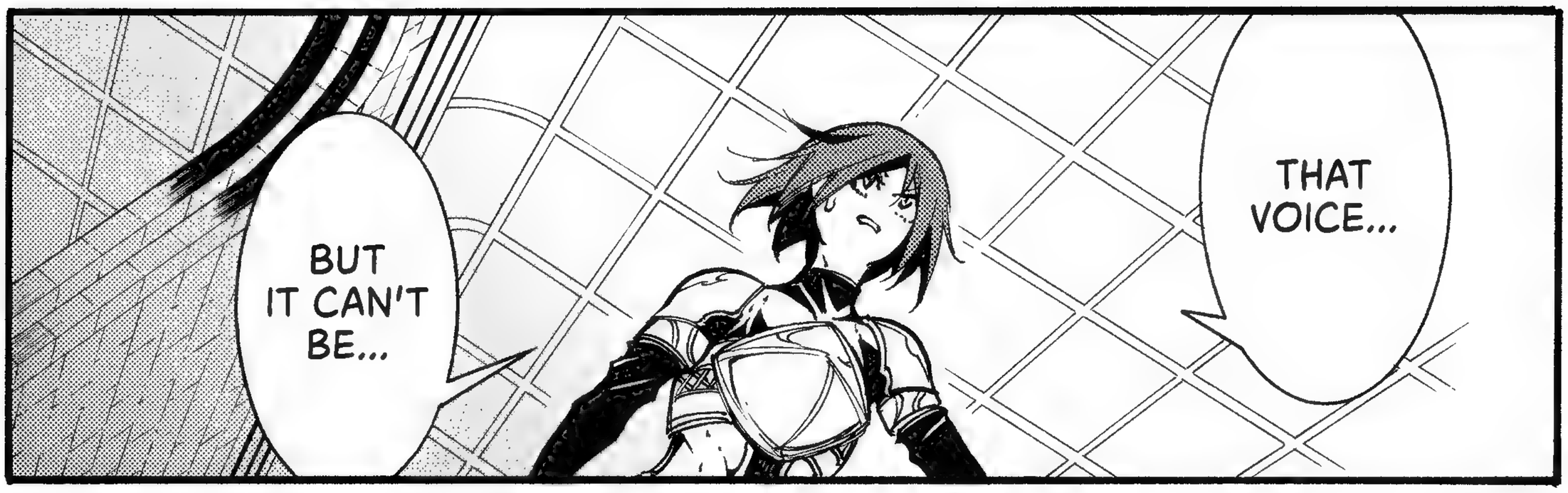
Y-YES, MARIA. VICE CAPTAIN. SORRY.

ALEC...?

TIGHT

ELFAYE, RIGHT?

THOUGHT SO.
THRUST


BUT IT CAN'T BE...
THAT VOICE...

DUN
DUN
SIR INORI?
DUN
LOOM

ELFAYE! STAY WITH US!

FWUMP

NO... NO, NO, NO...

GLANCE

NO...

ALEC...

NEVER MIND.

WHY ARE YOU HOLDING ALEC'S...?

WHERE DID YOU...?

THE CAPTAIN WANTS YOU RETRIEVED ALIVE AND UNHARMED.

WE'RE UNDER ORDERS TO FIND YOU.

YOU CAN TELL US THE STORY AFTERWARD.

OH...

IT'S NOT A LONG ONE.

I KILLED HIM.

AND HIS FRIENDS TOO.

I PLAN ON DOING THE SAME TO EVERY SAD SAP IN THIS CASTLE.

LOOM

MATTER OF FACT, I ALREADY TOOK CARE OF EVERYONE IN THE MAIN HALL.

SHUD

DER

EVERYONE IN THE MAIN HALL?

YOU... WHAT?

YOU HAVE NO *REASON* TO!

YOU'RE BLUFFING. YOU COULD NEVER—

OKAY, HOLD UP.

LEMME STOP YOU RIGHT THERE.

DOES IT *REALLY* EVEN MATTER?

I AM YOUR ENEMY.

I FEEL I'VE ALREADY MADE THAT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR.

'CAUSE I CAN FIX THAT REAL FAST.

GULSH

SQUISH

OR WHAT, NOT CONVINCED YET?

SCRUNCH

FWAP

"HELP ME! SAVE ME!"

FWAP

HA! I CRACK MYSELF UP.

FWAP

GRIT

!!!

SHING

AAAAAAAH!!!

AH WHOOM

NO!

ELFAYE!

TOSS

YES...

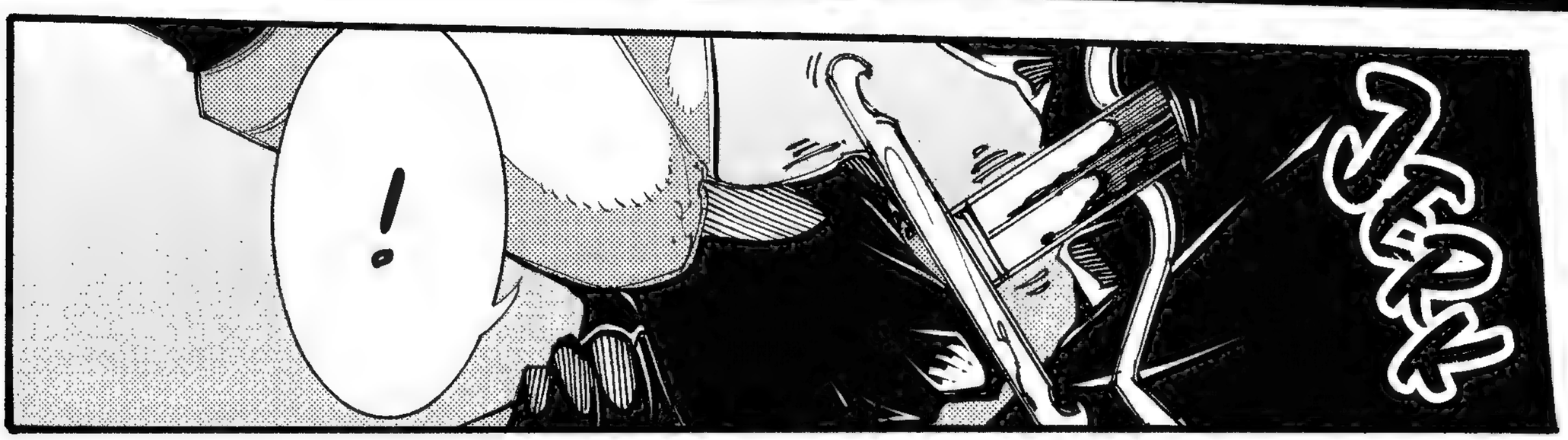
I WILL DESTROY YOU!

THAT'S IT. PERFECT.

ISHU
SPLAT
NK

KOFF

HUFF!
HUFF!
HAAH!
HAAH!


!
KOFF

WELL...

YOUR EXECUTION COULD USE SOME WORK.

DA

DUN

THE ABDOMINAL MUSCLES APPLY TOO MUCH PRESSURE FOR A QUICK FOLLOW-THROUGH.

M-MY BLADE'S STUCK!

Y-YOU...! HOW ARE YOU STILL...?!

PULL

YOU'D KNOW THAT IF YOU'D PAID ATTENTION IN TRAINING.

SHWIP

AH...

THUNK

SPURT

SPEWWWW

ELFA-YE!

AH...

CLICK

LURCH
ズボッ

MIRANDA!
ALICE!
POSITIONS!

ZOOM

THIS *THING* IS NOT HUMAN!

Well, that's not very nice.

DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU!

I'LL DISTRACT HIM!

GRIP

YOU TWO STRIKE WHILE HE'S FOCUSED ON ME!

CLACK

NOW WE'RE GETTING SOMEWHERE.

THEIR SWORDWORK'S ABOUT WHAT I EXPECTED FROM WHAT I SAW DURING TRAINING.

EX-CEPT...

TING

WHOOO

THEY'RE USING SOME KIND OF ICE MAGIC TO BLOCK MY ESCAPE ROUTES.

AND ON TOP OF THAT...

FMP

...I'VE GOT ARROWS FLYING AT ME EVERY TIME I TRY TO SLIP THROUGH THE GAPS.

FMP FMP

LOOKS LIKE WE GOT AN ICE MAGE...

...AND A REGULAR ROBIN HOOD OVER HERE.

SOME REAL A+ TEAMWORK AT PLAY HERE.

NOT A BAD TEAM YOU'VE PUT TOGETHER, CAPTAIN.

IN THAT CASE, LET'S SEE HIM TRY AND SHAKE OFF DECAPITATION!

PIERCING HIM DOESN'T SEEM TO WORK EITHER.

ARROWS HARDLY FAZE HIM.

NOW!

WHOOSH

TUP

WHATEVER THIS IS, IT CAN'T BE SIR INORI.

HE LEAPED! AND SO HIGH!

OR VERY SMART, FOR THAT MATTER.

YOU'VE CORNERED YOURSELF!

THERE'S NOWHERE TO RUN IN THE AIR!

WHISH

GOT YOU!

WHA—

FWIP

TINK

SHOOM

HOW?!

SHUNK

...YOU...

WHOOM

CAREFUL, MIRANDA! HE'S COMING TO...

GWRK

MIRANDA!

WHAT IN THE HELL'S GOING ON?!

M-MIRANDA'S OVER THERE ALL OF A SUDDEN, AND NOW HE'S OVER HERE!

SLUSH

ALSO, *THAT.*

NOTICED IT YET?

FWISH

IMAGINE HORIZONTAL BUNGEE JUMPING.

YOINK

WHIFF

WHAT IN THE...?!

TWIP

THREAD?!

HOW DID HE—?!

HRGH!

CRACK

...I THINK YOU DROPPED THESE.

NOW...

TACK

ARGH...!

IT'S HANDY STUFF, YOU KNOW.

ギチ
CREAK

ギギィッ
GREEE

FMP
FMP
FMP
FMP
CONQUEROR
PUPPET MASTER
ALICE...
SO, VICE CAPTAIN...

...LOOKS LIKE IT'S JUST YOU AND ME NOW.

DU DOOM

DOOM DOOM

YOU WORKED WELL TOGETHER, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. BUT LET'S WRAP THIS UP WITH A ONE-ON-ONE.

WHAT IS IT YOU'RE AFTER?

GRIN

OH, JUST A WARM-UP.

BEFORE I GO TAKE ON YOUR CAPTAIN.

STEP

A WARM-UP?

CLINK

WELL THEN, I'M SORRY.

I'M AFRAID I WON'T BE ABLE TO OBLIGE.

GRIT

...IS AS *FAR AS YOU GO!*

BECAUSE *THIS...*

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT!

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT!

FINALLY, A CLEAN HIT!

Chapter 20

HE MAY HAVE SHRUGGED OFF ARROWS AND CUTS BEFORE...

...BUT HE'S GOT TO BE FEELING THAT ONE.

DASH

KR

I CAN FINISH THIS!

HE **WILL** DIE HERE!

I'NG

I'M ALMOST IMPRESSED.

NOT BAD.

TWEENG
CLANG

WHOOSH
SHIFF

I'M AMAZED HE'S LASTED THIS LONG WITH ONLY ONE HAND.

SHOOM

TUP

BUT I'VE GOT HIM NOW.

WITH THIS NEXT STRIKE...

THAT FIRST SWING WAS A FEINT.

WHOOM

YOUR HEAD...

...IS MINE!

SLICE

GOT...

...YOU...?

T

INK

I SAW YOU USE THAT SAME TRICK WHILE SPARRING.

YOU TEND TO RELY ON FEINTS WHEN YOUR OPPONENT'S DEFENDING WELL.

IT MAKES YOU PREDICTABLE.

STAGGER

JUMP

ONCE I REALIZED THAT, YOU WERE PRACTICALLY AN OPEN—

HM? HELLO?

WHAT...? HOW...?

SQUIRM

TWIST

WHAT, THIS?

YOUR SHOULDER... HOW HAS IT...?

THAT FIXED ITSELF A *WHILE* AGO, LADY.

NOW LET'S KEEP THIS GOING.
SAY, FIVE MORE ROUNDS OR SO.
WOULDN'T BE MUCH OF A WARM-UP IF I DIDN'T WORK UP A SWEAT.

...

THIS BLACK WOOD SWORD'S TREATED ME PRETTY WELL SO FAR.

GUESS I WON'T NEED TO REPLACE IT WITH AN IRON ONE ANYTIME SOON.

OH, AND BEFORE I FORGET...

I'LL SAVE THE RESOURCES FOR MY KNIVES.

VRM

ZMMM

CREAK

YOUR COOPERATION IS APPRECIATED, YOUR VICELINESS.

...FINISH ME.

HAAH...

HAAH...

CHILL, I'LL GET TO THAT.

KINDA SCREWS WITH THE VIBE.

I'M NOT INTO THE WHOLE "KILL ME" CLICHÉ.

WHAT?

WHAT ARE YOU...?

WONDER IF THE GHOULS ARE READY YET.

SPEAK-ING OF SCREWED UP...

THAT WAS A RHETORICAL QUESTION.

OH, SORRY.

STUMBLE

AH, THERE WE GO.

HERE'S OUR ANSWER.

LURCH

M-MI-RAN-DA...

ELFAYE... ALICE...

UUU UUUR GH!

BURP

ANYWAY, I'VE GOT ONE LAST FAVOR TO ASK.

IT'S NOTHING BIG OR ANYTHING. I JUST NEED YOUR HELP WITH A LITTLE EXPERIMENT.

SHUDDER

SHUDDER

SEE, I'VE NEVER WORKED WITH GHOULS BEFORE.

ALL RIGHT, FORMER LADIES. ELFAYE, MIRANDA, ALICE.

W- WAIT!

STOP THIS!

STRETCH

CREAK

SHAKE

ANY- THING BUT THIS!

ONE NICE, FRESH SACK OF HUMAN FLESH.

TREMBLE

DINNER IS SERVED.

NO!

NOOOOO!

EAT UP.

ALL RIGHT...

TIME TO MOVE.

GLP

CRUNCH

GWRK

SQUELCH

CRACK

WELL, THAT JUST ABOUT TAKES CARE OF THE LOOSE ENDS.

ポタ
PLIP
ポタ
PLIP
HAAH!
SHIFF
HUFF!
WHAT...
WHAT IN THE *HELL* IS GOING ON?!
CORPSES... CORPSES EVERY-WHERE.
IT'S A DAMNED *NIGHT-MARE.*

STOP

THUMP

DA DA DA DA

KOFF

HUFF

YOU'RE ONE OF *THEM.*

YOU'RE...

YOU... YOU'RE NOT A HERO.

SLASH

CURSE YOUR ROYAL BLOOD!

WHAT MANNER OF *FIEND* HAS YOUR SUMMONING WROUGHT?!

WHA—

CLANG

HAAH!

HAAH!

HAAH!

CLATTER

WHAT?!
SHLP
SWSHHH
WHAT—
WHAT IS THIS?!
VRRRM

SHWURCH

HOW LONG HAS THE BEAST BEEN STALKING ME?
A WOLF?!

NO...

IT EMERGED...

...FROM THE PRINCESS'S SHADOW.

SHHHK

SHH

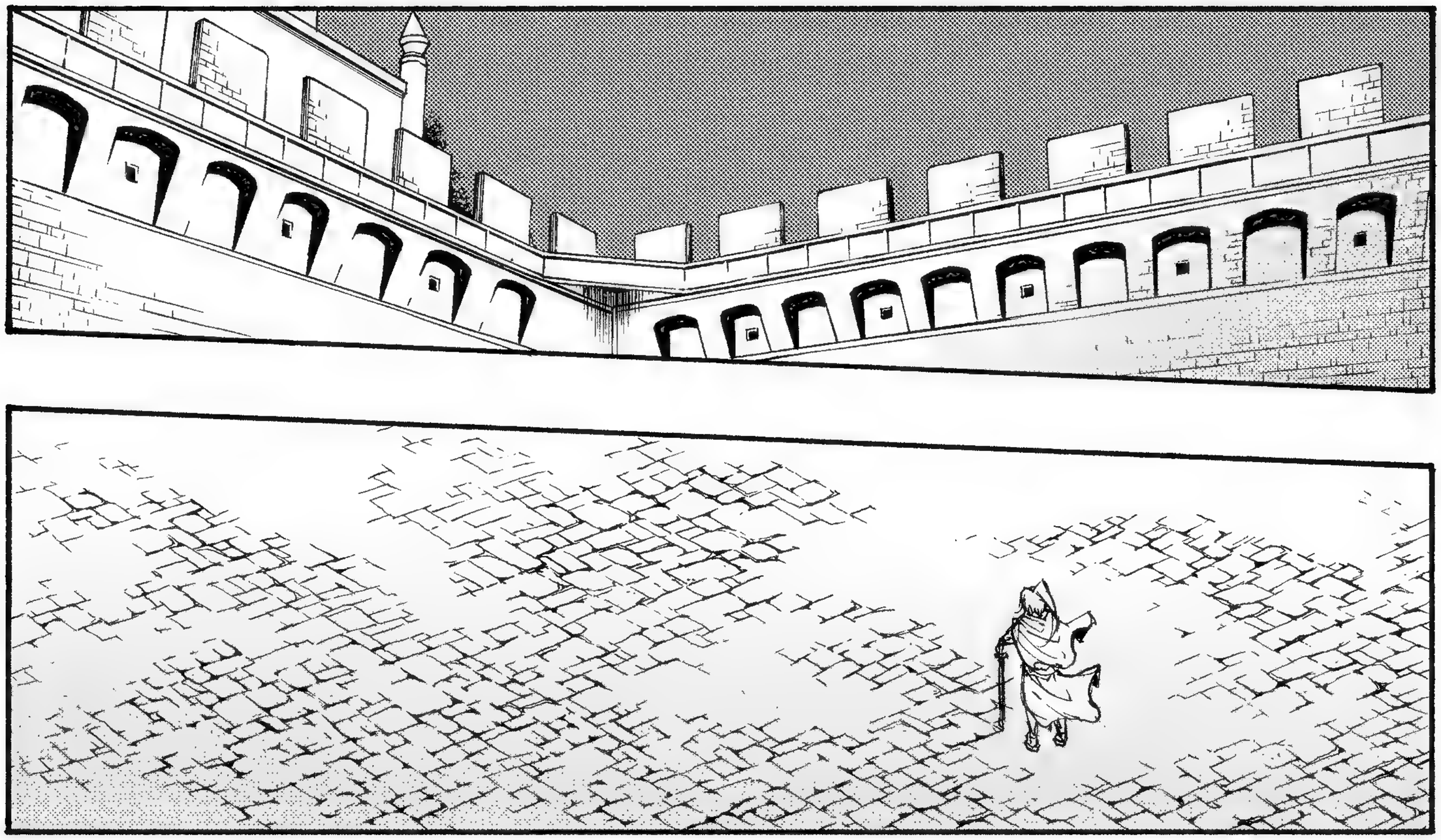
SHP

...

BY THE WITCH...

THIS NATION...

SPLURCH
WHAT HAS IT BECOME?



THEY'RE LATE.

KWOH
HOO
HOO
HOO

STILL, THEY SHOULD HAVE ARRIVED LONG BEFORE NOW.

I SUPPOSE THE SQUADRONS COULD HAVE BEEN DELAYED.

THOUGH I'D BE DISOBEYING MY ORDERS...

PERHAPS I OUGHT TO CIRCLE BACK.

FLAP FLAP

THAT NOISE... WINGS?

FLAP FLAP

!

ZETTO

MOON'S BEAUTIFUL TONIGHT, ISN'T IT, CAPTAIN?

INORI? IS THAT YOU?

BUT THOSE WINGS... IT CAN'T BE!

DAMN IT ALL, WHAT MANNER OF DEVIL HAVE YOU SURRENDERED YOUR SOUL TO?!

DO YOU REALIZE WHAT YOU'VE DONE?!

HAVE YOU NO PRIDE IN YOUR HUMANITY?!

FAITH?

I HAD *FAITH* IN YOU, YOU FOOL!

OH, THAT'S RICH. YOU REALLY THOUGHT I GAVE A DAMN ABOUT *PRIDE.*

YOU HAD *FAITH* IN A LAYABOUT WRETCH. YOU SYMPATHIZED WITH *ME.*

YOU UTTER FOOL.

ANY-WAY...

...THAT'S NOT IMPORTANT.

I'VE NEVER SOLD MY SOUL TO ANYONE, I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW. MUCH LESS THE DEVIL.

EXCUSE ME?

OSTENSIBLY, SUCH A DECLARATION SOUNDS ABSURD.

TO INORI, HOWEVER, IT MAKES PERFECT SENSE.

INORI IS WITHOUT PRIDE.

HE USES THE USEFUL.

AND HE DISCARDS THE IMPRACTICAL.

ZRUM

BUT HE DOES THESE THINGS OF HIS OWN VOLITION.

TO SURRENDER ONE'S SOUL, BE IT TO EVIL OR GOOD...

...IS TO CAGE IT.

TO COMMIT SUCH AN ACT WOULD BE TO DEFY HIS VERY NATURE.

A STATISTICAL IMPOSSIBILITY.

ALTRUISM IS SENSELESS. SELFLESSNESS IS WEAKNESS. CHARITY IS INANE.

FOR INORI, THERE IS **ONLY** INORI.

CALL ME WHAT YOU WANT.

BUT I LIVE ON MY OWN TERMS.

!

I JUST NEVER LET ANYONE NOTICE.

TRUTH IS, I WAS ALWAYS THIS POWERFUL.

WE CAN AGREE ON ONE THING, THOUGH.

SUMMONING THOSE "HEROES" TO THIS WORLD WAS YOUR ***WORST MISTAKE.***

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT!

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT!

YOU ARE NOTHING BUT A FOOL, SO AFRAID OF YOUR OWN WEAKNESS THAT YOU WOULD TURN TO DEMONS.

YOU *HID* THIS POWER? DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.

SIGH

I DON'T KNOW HOW TO MAKE YOU UNDERSTAND THAT I'VE LITERALLY ALWAYS BEEN THIS WAY.

BUT IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR YOU. JOIN ME!

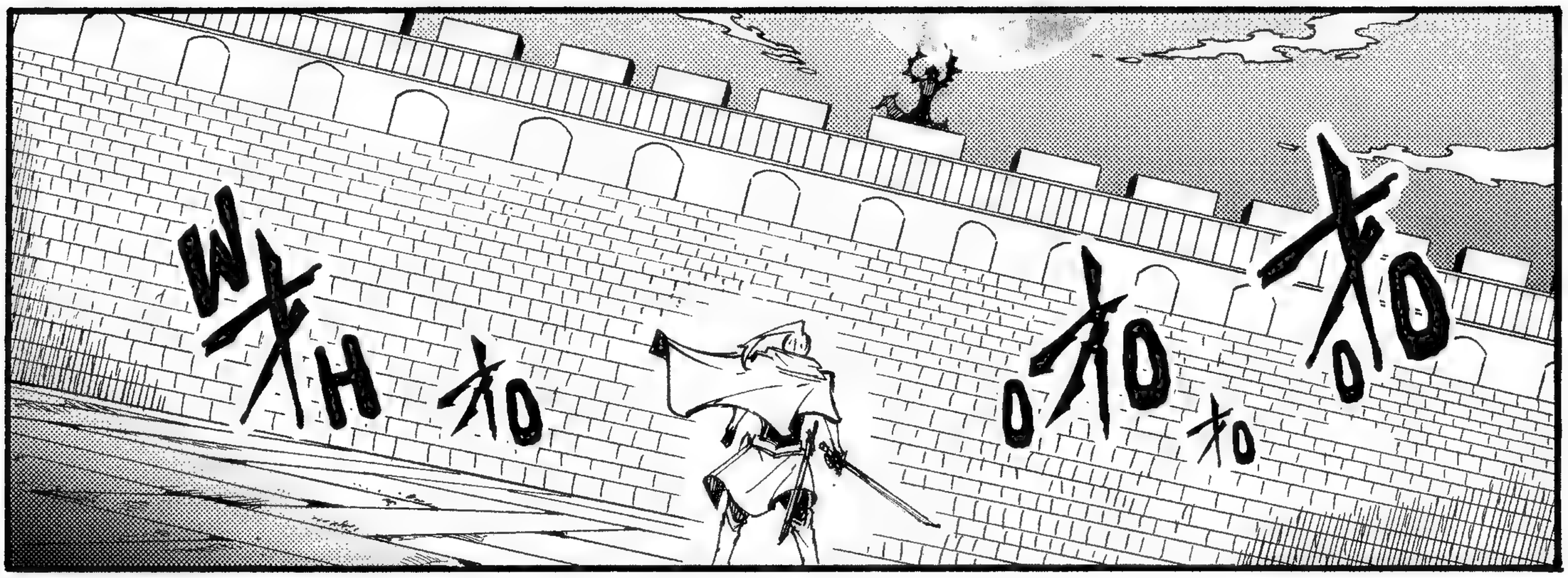
WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO GAIN BY ABANDONING YOUR HUMANITY?

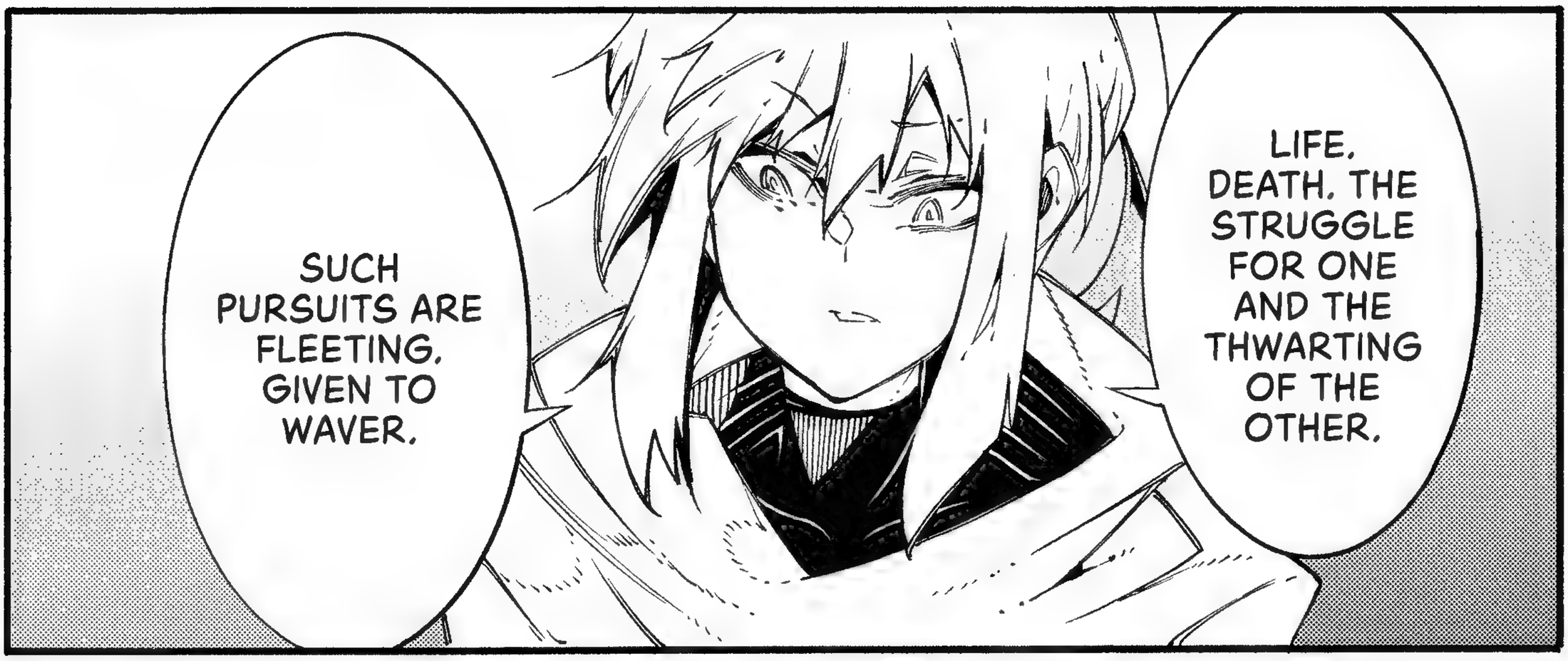
YOUR MIND IS FRAGILE AND UNDISCIPLINED.

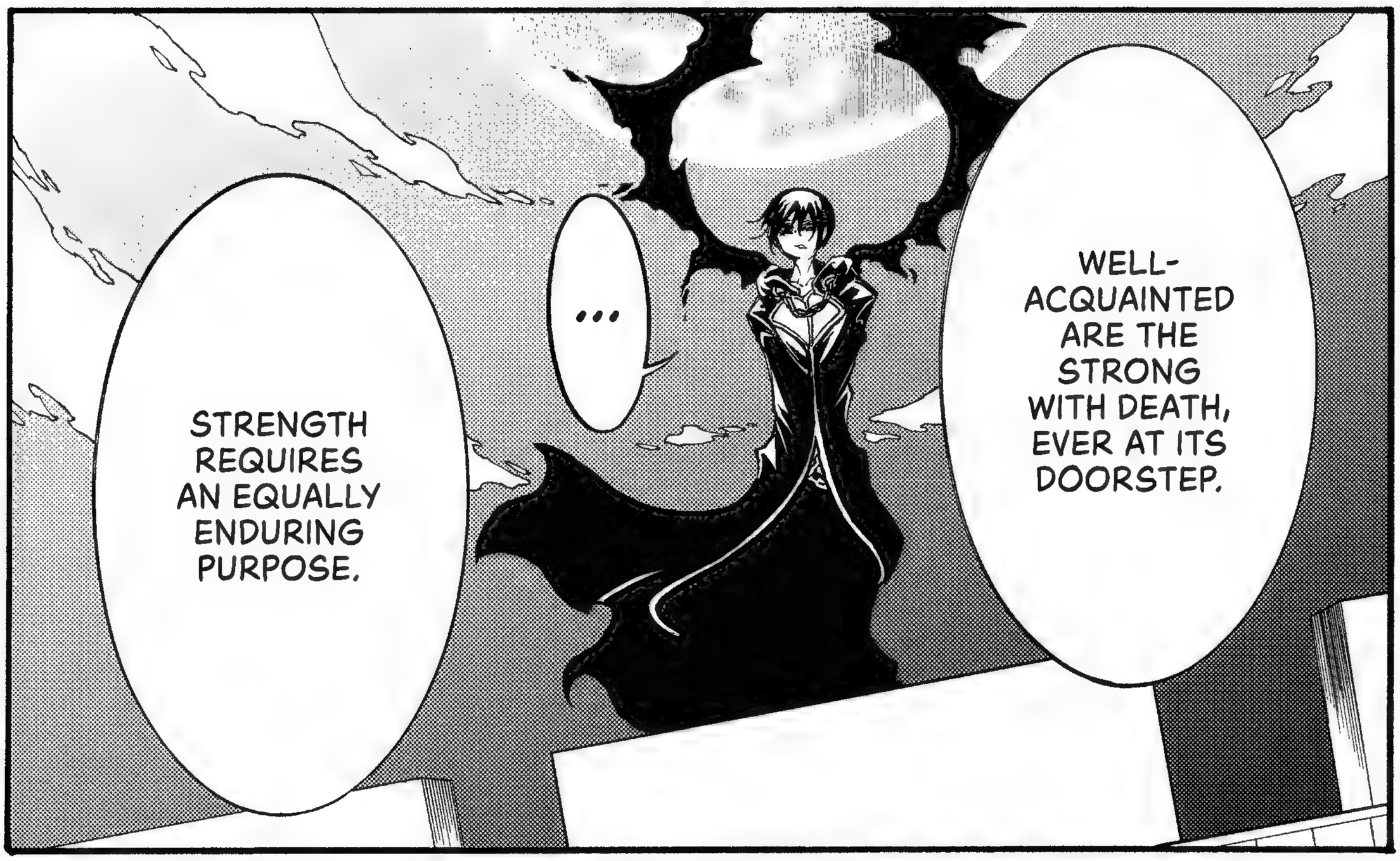
Chapter 21

TELL ME, INORI. WHAT IS YOUR REASON FOR LIVING?

TO LIVE.


WHO
OH
OH
OH


SUCH PURSUITS ARE FLEETING. GIVEN TO WAVER.
LIFE. DEATH. THE STRUGGLE FOR ONE AND THE THWARTING OF THE OTHER.


...
STRENGTH REQUIRES AN EQUALLY ENDURING PURPOSE.
WELL-ACQUAINTED ARE THE STRONG WITH DEATH, EVER AT ITS DOORSTEP.

OKAY, THEN WHAT'S THE LIFE PURPOSE OF A WATER FLEA?

IF SURVIVAL IS THE ONLY KINDLING THAT SUSTAINS YOUR FLAME...

...YOU WILL QUICKLY FIND IT SNUFFED OUT.

A WHAT?

BUT THEY SERVE NO HIGHER PURPOSE THAN KICKING AROUND LONG ENOUGH TO SEE TOMORROW.

SURE, THINGS ARE A LITTLE MORE SINK-OR-SWIM IN THEIR WORLD THAN OURS.

SHUFF

NO IDEA IF THESE GUYS KNOW WHAT A WATER FLEA EVEN IS.

BUT THAT'S NOT THE POINT.

SHE'S PREACHING TO ME LIKE I'M STILL HER STUDENT.

AEGIANA DOESN'T SEE ME AS HER ENEMY RIGHT NOW.

OKAY, LET ME FLIP THE QUESTION. WHAT'S ***YOUR*** LIFE PURPOSE?

GIVEN THE CONTEXT OF WHY I'M HERE, THIS DEBATE FEELS A LITTLE SUPERFLUOUS.

...

I LIVE...

GRIP

...FOR MY COUNTRY.

MY HEART AND SOUL BELONG TO THE MOTHERLAND.

TCH...

YEAH, THOUGHT SO.

LAME.

HERE'S MY TAKE.

FACT IS, OUR BASEST INSTINCT IS TO OSTRACIZE.

THERE'S NOTHING COMPLICATED ABOUT LIVING, REALLY.

IT'S ABOUT CONFLICT. OPPOSING THE WORLD OUTSIDE OF US AND ALL THE NASTIES IN IT.

THE MEANING OF LIFE IS THERE *IS* NO MEANING.

I'M NOT FOLLOWING YOUR ARGUMENT.

I DON'T...

I'M ***OPPOSING*** YOU.

SNAP

YOU DON'T NEED TO.

'CAUSE I'M NOT ARGUING WITH YOU.

?!

ZZ

WHIR

OOO

WHAT?!

OOO

SHA

MON-
STERS?!

BUT CAN YOU GIVE IT UP?

WHOOO

SO, CAPTAIN. YOU'VE GOT SOME REAL LOVE FOR YOUR NATION.

HASTOO

ARE YOU TRYING TO MAKE A TRAITOR OF ME?

OH, PLEASE. DON'T BE SILLY.

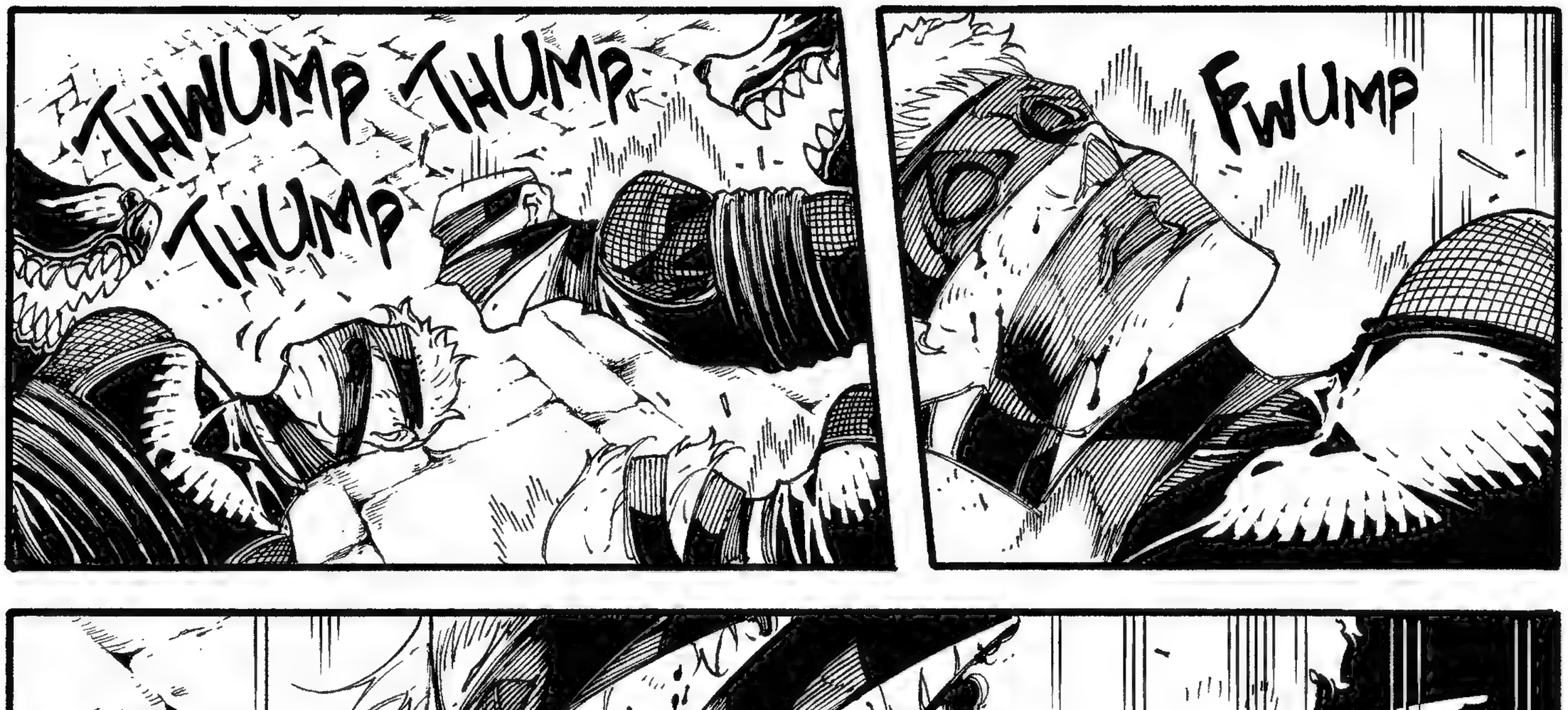
WHY WOULD I DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?

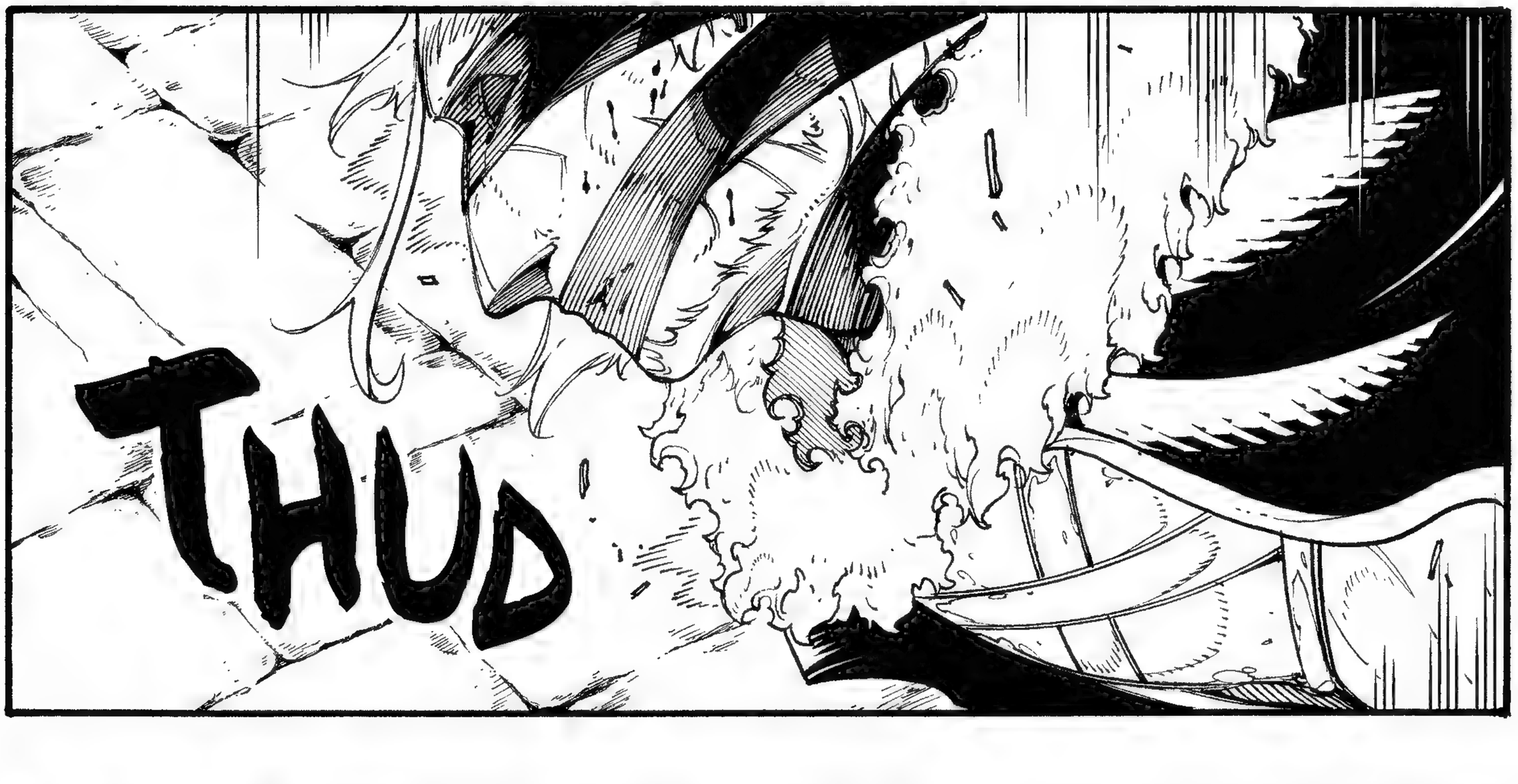
KIFWUMP

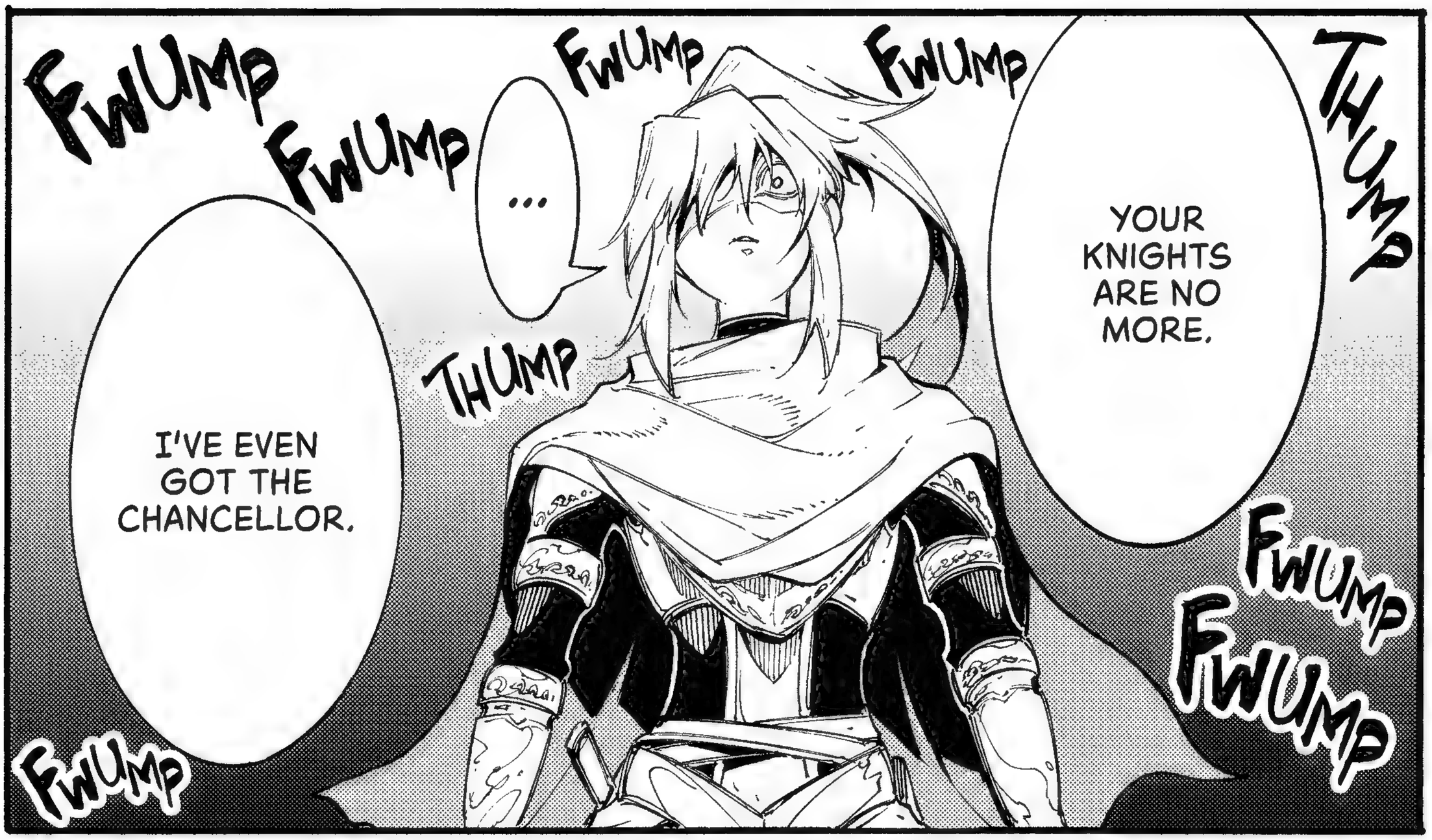
HOW CAN YOU BETRAY SOMETHING THAT DOESN'T EXIST?

DRAG

YANK


THWUMP
THUMP
THUMP
FWUMP


THUD


FWUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP
...
FWUMP
FWUMP
THUMP
I'VE EVEN GOT THE CHANCELLOR.
YOUR KNIGHTS ARE NO MORE.
THUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP
FWUMP

YOU'RE ALL ALONE NOW.

RIIIGHT. *COUNTRY.*

OH, *SHOOT!* HOLD ON, WHAT WAS YOUR REASON FOR LIVING AGAIN?

YOU GUYS WENT AND GENOCIDED ALL THE NOBILITY.

BUT WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND, AM I RIGHT?

YOUR "HIGHER PURPOSE" IS GONE.

AND BY THE WAY...

...I WENT AHEAD AND KEPT THESE ONES ALIVE.

MMMMH!

TWIST

JERK

AND I'M KEEPING OTHERS HOSTAGE TOO.

GRRRRRRR

THEY'LL ONLY STAY THAT WAY AS LONG AS I CARE TO LET THEM.

IF YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT THEM, YOU'LL SURRENDER. NOW.

OTHERWISE, THEY'RE AS GOOD AS DEAD.

YANK

THE ONES HERE'LL ONLY HAVE THEIR NECKS CRUSHED.

BUT I PROMISE THE OTHERS WON'T BE SO LUCKY.

SPLICH

NOT THAT IT'LL BE CRUEL OR UNUSUAL.

ZWRRRRM

BEING EATEN ALIVE'S NOT *REALLY* THAT UNNATURAL OF A WAY TO GO.

SPLAT

THE LIVES OF WHAT'S LEFT OF THE KNIGHTS ARE IN YOUR HANDS.

MINE WERE TIED, Y'SEE.

YOU'RE JUST TOO DANGEROUS.

...

ALSO, NO SUDDEN MOVES, ELSE I'LL KILL THEM ANYWAY.

WHAT'RE YOU DOING OVER THERE, CAP?

YOU HEAR ME?

PRAYING...

...FOR THE DEAD AND DISHONORED.

AND...

...FOR THOSE WHO WILL BE SACRIFICED.

HUH.

KREEN

WHUM

SHRIP

YOU ASK ME, INORI TAKAFUJI, DO I SURRENDER?

NAY.

WHOOOM

THESE ARE THE BODIES MY COUNTRY WILL BE BUILT UPON.

FOR THAT IS WHAT WE ARE. TILL OUR LAST BREATH. TILL OUR FINAL HEARTBEAT.

REGARDLESS OF THE BATTLEFIELD IT STAINS, OUR BLOOD REMAINS FOREVER THAT OF A KNIGHT'S.

AND YOU, WHO WOULD LAY LOW US PROTECTORS...

DOTO

TO

TO

TO

TO

TOM.

YOU ARE A THREAT TO THE PEOPLE I AM SWORN TO DEFEND.

I WILL FULFILL MY DUTY...

...AND ELIMINATE YOU!

SHUDDER

AND SHE SAYS SHE'LL "FULFILL HER DUTY"? TO WHAT? THE **PEOPLE?**

SHE'S GOT NO LIEGE, NO ARMY, NO COUNTRY WHATSOEVER TO FIGHT FOR.

IN HER VIEW, THE STATE EXISTS SOLELY FOR THE GOOD OF THE PEOPLE.

THIS IDEA SHE'S GOT ABOUT HER NATION IS SO IDEALISTIC.

AND IT'S THE SAME...

...THAT DRIVES HER TO FORSAKE THE CHAN-CELLOR.

THAT BELIEF IS WHAT DROVE HER TO MURDER THE PRINCESS.

HOW **DISGUST-INGLY** SELF-CENTERED.

HOW UN-WAVERINGLY **CONCEITED.**

HOW...

SNEER

HOW MAD.

WHATEVER DESTRUCTION WAS WROUGHT, HOWEVER MANY LIVES WERE LOST—ALL WOULD BE JUSTIFIED WITH THE FRUITION OF HER IDEALS.

THERE WAS NO CHIVALRY NOR HONOR IN THIS.

IN HER LAY SOMETHING PURE AND TWISTED.

SOMETHING AKIN TO MADNESS.

SWISH

WELL THEN!

FWIP

?!

FWSHHH

I GUESS I **DO** LIKE YOU AFTER ALL!

CRACK

LURCH

I WAS WRONG TO ASSUME I NEEDED TO LIE TO YOU.

SHUP

I OWE YOU AN APOLOGY, AEGIANA.

DOOOM

I SLAUGHTERED EVERY LAST ONE OF THEM AND MADE THEM MY GHOULS!

THE CHANCELLOR? YOUR GIRLS AND THE OTHER KNIGHTS? ***THEY'RE ALL ALREADY DEAD!***

OH...

YES, I SEE NOW.

ROLL

EVERYTHING IS CLEAR TO ME.

YOU ARE MY ENEMY, AND THE TIME FOR WORDS HAS LONG PASSED!

GLAD WE'RE ON THE SAME PAGE, ***ENEMY.***

GRIN

THE SMILE ON INORI'S FACE AT THAT MOMENT...

DASH

...WAS NOT THE SAME ONE HE WORE FOR HIS OTHER PREY IN THE CASTLE.

THIS ONE WAS GENUINE. JOYFUL.

MURDEROUS.

Oversummoned, Overpowered, AND OVER IT!

EXTRA SCENE

LAST TIME...

INORI HAS RESOLVED TO CARRY OUT HIS REVENGE AGAINST THE CAPTAIN. WILL HE SUCCEED? OR WILL HE BE THE ONE LEFT WITH EGG (PAINT) ON HIS FACE?

OVERSUMMONED, OVERPOWERED, AND OVER IT! THE CAPTAIN'S ARTISTRY!

PART 7

HE'S DOING IT *AGAIN,* IS HE?

LOOM

OOO

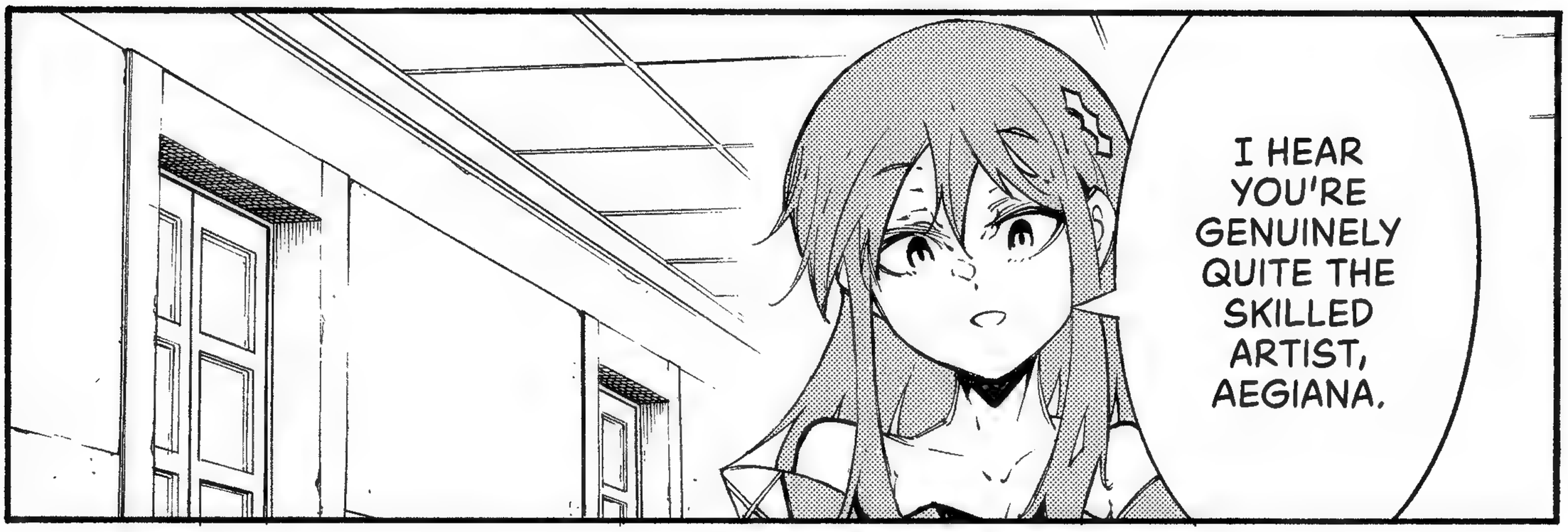
CREEP

SOME NEVER LEARN.

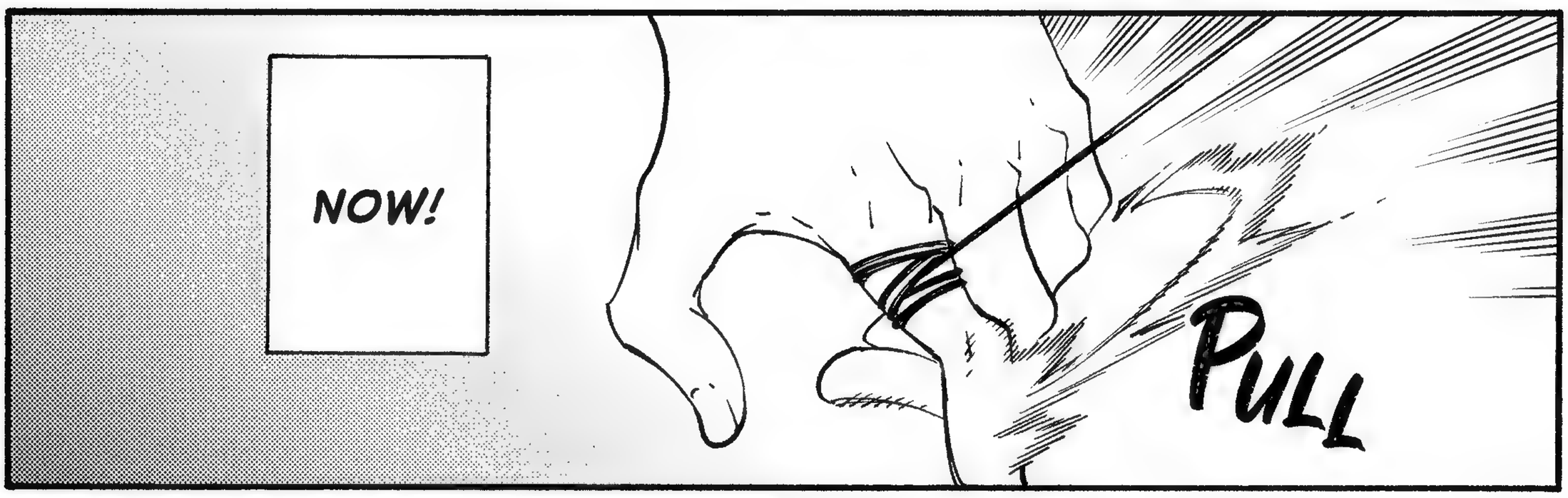
BUT NOT YET. WAIT FOR IT...

EVERYTHING'S GOING TO PLAN. SHE'S ALMOST HERE.

JUST A LITTLE CLOSER...
WAIT FOR IIIT...
WAIT FOR IT...


I HEAR YOU'RE GENUINELY QUITE THE SKILLED ARTIST, AEGIANA.

HM...
I DABBLED A LITTLE IN MY PAST, BELIEVE IT OR NOT.
YES, WELL...


NOW!
PULL

!!!

WHOOO SH

I DID IT! I GOT THE JUMP ON HER!

SEEMS LIKE SHE NOTICED AT THE LAST SECOND.

BUT IT'S TOO LATE!

JUmp

ONE BUCKET OF INK AND A DREAM...

A VERITABLE STYGIAN SEA AWAITS YOU!

I'M TAKIN' YOU OUT WITH ME, BITCH!

MUR-MUR

I thought he was supposed to draw on her...

11

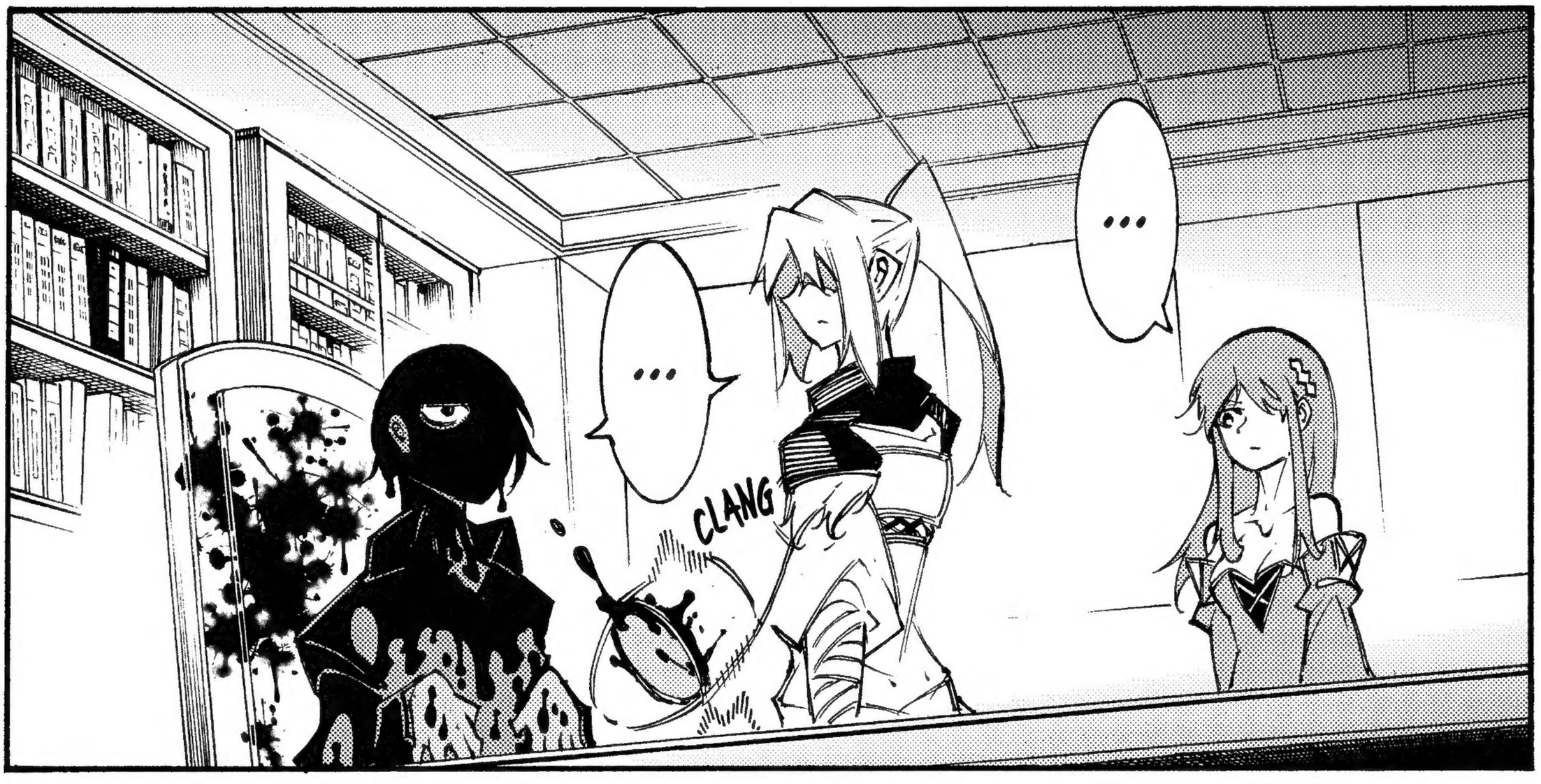
SPLASH

DID SHE REALLY JUST—?!

WHIFF

WHIFF

ハードリップ


...
...
CLANG

OVERSUMMONED, OVERPOWERED, AND OVER IT! (MANGA) VOLUME 5
by Mukojima kamome
Based on the novels by Saitosa
Original character designs by Tsugutoku

Translated by Matthew Jackson
Edited by Momo
Lettered by Kai Kyou

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